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Letter dated 26 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 25 September 2000 addressed to you (S/2000/899) regarding the process of disarming the militias in Atambua.

In this regard, I should like to convey the latest developments, which are as follows:

1. Following the departure of the Vice-President from the police compound, one of the militia members, Mr. Eurico Gutteres, voiced his displeasure at not being properly treated by the police by attempting to begin a commotion, but was promptly restrained by the Indonesian military personnel. Although during the commotion some of the confiscated weapons were briefly retrieved, they were ultimately surrendered to the local military commander and the situation was brought under control. During this confusion, there were three officials of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) and one translator in the compound. Contrary to a misperception, Mr. Gutteres did not manage to infiltrate into the area through the heavy military presence, but was present in the compound through the whole disarming process.

2. From the outset, the Government of Indonesia has stressed that the process of disarming the militias would not be an easy task. Despite the numerous and formidable challenges, Indonesia continues to fulfil its commitments by taking concrete measures that have resulted in the confiscation of a sizeable number of weapons.

3. On 26 September 2000, a limited Cabinet session was convened to discuss the latest event and a decision was taken to move forward towards the second phase of enforcement.

It would be highly appreciated if you could have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Makarim **Wibisono**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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